Identification of households below poverty line in States

*95. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed the number of below poverty line households for States and has told them not to exceed this limit while conducting the census to identify such families;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry of Rural Development guidelines have set limits on the number of families to be benefited;

(c) whether it directed that BPL households may be identified in such a way that the total of persons does not exceed the number estimated by the Planning Commission for the year 1999-2000; and

(d) if so, to what extend, the States have implemented this directive?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Rural Development has reported that the Government has fixed the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) households for States and has told them not to exceed this limit while conducting the Census to identify such families. Further, they have reported that the number of persons identified through the BPL Census 2002, may not exceed the number of persons living below the poverty line as estimated by the Planning Commission for 1999-2000 for the rural sector or the number of persons as per the Adjusted Share Computed by the Planning Commission, whichever is higher. An additional 10% has also been permitted to account for the transient poor. The Ministry of Rural Development has advised States/Union Territories to complete the BPL Census 2002 by 31st March, 2003.

Representation from All India Cycle Manufacturers Association

*96. DR. AKHILESH DAS:
SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.by pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received a representation from the All India Cycle Manufacturers Association, New Delhi regarding fall in sale of cycles;

(b) if so, the reasons to which the reduction is attributable; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to assuage the grievances of cycle manufacturers and connected trade and to promote the production and sale of this pollution free mode of transport of the common man?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The domestic sales as well as export of Cycles, both in volume and value terms, has shown an upward trend during the last three years. The year-wise sales and value realisation during the last three years are as under:

Sales of Cycles	1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002	
	Qty. (Lakh)	Value (Rs. Crore)	Qty. (Lakh)	Value (Rs. Crore)	Qty. (Lakh)	Value (Rs. Crore)
Domestic Sales	108.18	1307.96	108.74	1434.73	114.90	1467.00
Exports	7.73	104.89	8.74	118.01	9.78	126.89
Total Sales	115.91	1412.85	117.48	1552.74	124.68	1593.89
% increase in Domestic Sales	-	-	0.5%	9.7%	5.7%	2.2%
% increase in Exports	-	-	13.1%	12.5%	11.9%	7.5%

Note: The figures above relate to four major Bicycle manufacturers in the organised sector accounting for about 90% of the total Bicycle production in the country.

India is the second largest producer of Bicycles in the world. To give effective protection to this industry, the government has imposed 30% basic custom duty and 4% special additional duty on imports. In order to give a boost to the Bicycle industry, excise duty on parts and accessories of bicycles was withdrawn w.e.f. 27th April, 2002.

For Cycles other than Bicycles which are reserved for small scale sector (turnover not exceeding Rs. 3 Crores), the government has made a provision for excise duty exemption upto a turnover of Rs. 50 lakhs, a 5% *ad-valorem* duty (without CENVAT credit) between Rs. 50 lakhs and Rs. 1 Crore and normal duty with CENVAT credit beyond this level.

The Government would provide assistance to upgrade the technology in the Cycle sector under Technology Modernisation and Upgradation Scheme and Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme.

Decline in Industrial Growth

*97. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy has pointed out that industrial production growth has declined in the second half of the current fiscal year;

(b) if so, whether the industrial growth in the first half has been robust and the production of consumer durables would decline in the second half of 2002-2003;

(c) if so, the other details mentioned in the report of CMIE;

(d) the main reasons put forward by them; and

(e) the steps being taken to improve the industrial growth?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) has pointed out that after four consecutive months of buoyant industrial growth, there was a slowdown in November 2002, when a growth of 3-6% was registered. CMIE, however, has revised upwards their forecast of growth in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) for 2002-2003 to 5% from 4% projected earlier.

(b) Industrial production registered a growth of 5.4% during first half (April-September) of the current fiscal year as compared to 2.4% in April-